



North Dakota

FARM REPORTER

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IN THIS ISSUE

Agricultural Prices

Marketing Year Average Prices

Turkeys Raised

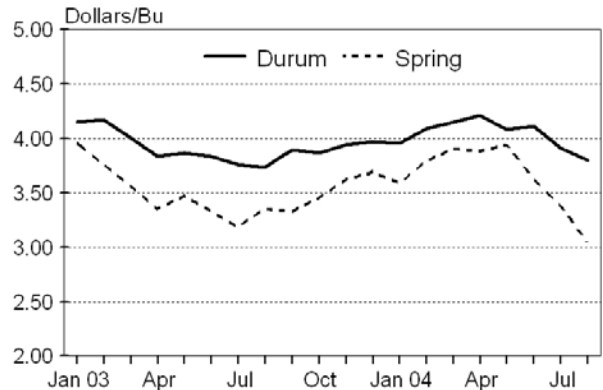
Early Season Custom Rates

AGRICULTURAL PRICES

North Dakota
The Index of Prices Received for All Farm Products in August is

113 percent of the 1990-1992 base. This is down 5 percent from last year and two years ago. The All Crops Index, at 117 percent of the base, is down 6 percent from August 2003 while the All Livestock Index, at 102 percent, is up 2 percent from last year. August indexes are calculated using preliminary mid-month prices.

Durum & Other Spring Wheat Prices Received North Dakota, January 2003-August 2004



Prices Received by Farmers, August 2004

Item	Unit	North Dakota			United States			Effective U.S. Parity Price Aug 2004
		Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary	
		Aug 2003	July 2004	Aug 2004	Aug 2003	July 2004	Aug 2004	
		--- Dollars ---			--- Dollars ---			- Dollars -
Wheat, All	Bu	3.40	3.51	3.19	3.35	3.37	3.13	10.10
Durum	Bu	3.73	3.91	3.80	3.78	4.11	3.83	---
Other Spring	Bu	3.35	3.38	3.05	3.42	3.55	3.24	---
Winter	Bu	2.88	3.53	2.85	3.28	3.32	3.02	---
Corn	Bu	2.10	2.51	2.20	2.15	2.51	2.27	6.79
Rye	Bu	1.94	2.65	---	---	---	---	6.33
Oats	Bu	1.22	1.18	1.10	1.39	1.37	1.31	3.96
Barley, All	Bu	2.59	2.42	2.09	2.91	2.54	2.45	6.74
Feed	Bu	1.83	1.86	1.45	2.39	2.21	1.83	---
Malting	Bu	2.77	2.54	2.30	3.12	2.67	2.87	---
Sunflower, All	Cwt	11.50	13.60	14.00	10.90	13.30	13.00	---
Oil	Cwt	9.34	12.40	11.70	---	---	---	---
Non-oil	Cwt	14.80	17.70	19.50	---	---	---	---
Baled Hay, All ^{1/}	Ton	49.00	63.00	58.00	85.00	90.40	89.80	---
Alfalfa ^{1/}	Ton	56.00	66.00	64.00	91.90	98.40	97.40	---
Other ^{1/}	Ton	40.00	50.00	49.00	66.70	70.90	70.00	---
Canola	Cwt	9.49	12.90	---	---	---	---	---
Flaxseed	Bu	5.30	7.33	6.90	5.30	7.33	6.90	13.00
Soybeans	Bu	5.34	7.51	5.80	5.68	8.46	6.34	16.00
Dry Edible Beans, All	Cwt	15.30	17.90	17.60	18.00	19.30	20.00	52.30
Navy	Cwt	16.20	17.50	---	---	---	---	---
Pinto	Cwt	14.60	18.90	---	---	---	---	---
Potatoes, All	Cwt	---	5.60	---	5.75	5.91	6.31	15.30
Fresh ^{2/}	Cwt	---	---	---	8.20	7.92	---	---
Processing	Cwt	---	5.60	---	4.77	5.07	---	---
Beef Cattle	Cwt	74.30	69.50	71.70	79.30	88.50	88.10	171.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	86.20	100.00	99.00	82.90	91.80	91.50	---
Cows	Cwt	43.80	57.60	57.00	44.50	56.30	55.50	---
Calves	Cwt	105.00	139.00	140.00	106.00	131.00	131.00	229.00
Sheep	Cwt	24.00	32.00	---	29.20	37.40	---	84.20
Lambs	Cwt	96.00	103.00	---	88.60	102.00	---	202.00
Hogs	Cwt	43.90	57.50	---	39.60	57.10	56.00	106.00

^{1/} Alfalfa, other and all hay are preliminary prices only. ^{2/} Fresh market prices only, includes table stock.

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AGRICULTURAL PRICES (Continued)

North Dakota

The August All Farm Product Index is 120 percent of its 1990-92 base, down 3 percent from the July index but 10 percent above the August 2003 index. The All Crops Index is 118, down 2 percent from July but 4 percent above August 2003. The Livestock and Products Index, at 122, is down 5 percent from last month but up 16 percent from August 2003.

Index Numbers of Farm Prices, August 2004

Indexes and Ratios	North Dakota			United States		
	Aug 2003	July 2004	Aug 2004	Aug 2003	July 2004	Aug 2004
Prices Received	(1990-92 = 100)					
All Farm Products	119	117	113	109	124	120
Crops	124	120	117	113	120	118
Food Grains	129	125	122	109	115	107
Feed Grains & Hay	141	121	120	102	113	105
Oil Bearing Crops ^{1/}	100	132	120	101	151	112
Potatoes & Dry Beans ^{2/}	96	90	100	98	101	108
Livestock	100	107	102	105	128	122
Meat Animals	101	111	103	104	122	121
Dairy Products	98	100	98	102	123	115
Other Livestock Products ^{3/}	98	99	98	112	145	131
Prices Paid	---	---	---	127	134	135
Ratio ^{4/}	---	---	---	86	93	89

^{1/} Includes non-oil sunflower. ^{2/} North Dakota includes sugarbeets.

^{3/} United States excludes wool. ^{4/} Ratio of Index of Prices Received to Index of Prices Paid.

MARKETING YEAR AVERAGE PRICES

North Dakota

The 2003 Marketing Year Average (MYA) prices for spring, durum, and winter wheat, rye, oats, malting barley and hay were all lower than the 2002 MYA's. Spring wheat declined 17 cents from 2002 to \$3.57. Feed barley, at \$1.95 per bushel, increased from last year and was the highest since 1996.

**Small Grains & Hay
Marketing Year Average Prices**

Item	Unit	North Dakota		United States	
		2002	2003	2002	2003
----- Dollars per Unit -----					
Wheat, All	Bu	3.80	3.63	3.56	3.40
Spring	Bu	3.74	3.57	3.82	3.62
Durum	Bu	4.01	3.93	4.05	3.97
Winter	Bu	3.54	3.01	3.41	3.27
Rye	Bu	2.69	2.12	3.38	3.00
Oats	Bu	1.68	1.33	1.81	1.48
Barley, All	Bu	2.56	2.59	2.72	2.83
Feed	Bu	1.89	1.95	2.16	2.29
Malting	Bu	2.92	2.78	3.01	3.08
Hay, All	Ton	64.50	52.50	92.40	85.50
Alfalfa	Ton	70.00	58.00	100.00	90.80
Other	Ton	49.00	41.00	73.80	70.90

TURKEYS RAISED

North Dakota

The preliminary estimate of turkeys raised in North Dakota during 2004 is 1.00 million birds. This is down 23 percent from the 1.30 million birds raised in 2003, and the lowest since 1985 when 900,000 birds were raised. Since 1990, turkeys raised in North Dakota have ranged from a low of 1.15 million turkeys in 1993 and 1994 to the record high of 2.60 million turkeys in 1997.

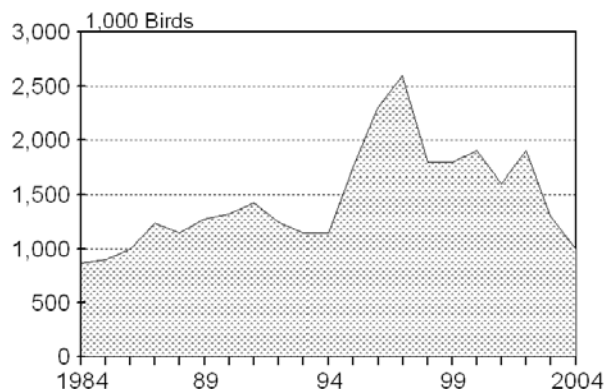
Turkeys Raised

States	Total All Breeds		
	2003	2004	2004 % of 2003
	--- 1,000 Birds ---		-- Percent --
North Dakota	1,300	1,000	77
Minnesota	45,000	46,500	103
North Carolina	42,500	39,000	92
South Dakota	4,600	4,500	98
United States	274,048	262,950	96

United States

The preliminary estimate of turkeys raised in the United States during 2004 is 263 million, down 4 percent from the number raised during 2003. Minnesota, at 46.5 million birds, is expected to raise the largest number of any state, showing a 3 percent increase from last year. North Carolina ranks second with 39.0 million birds, down 8 percent from 2003.

**Turkeys Raised
North Dakota, 1984-2004**



EARLY SEASON CUSTOM RATES

North Dakota

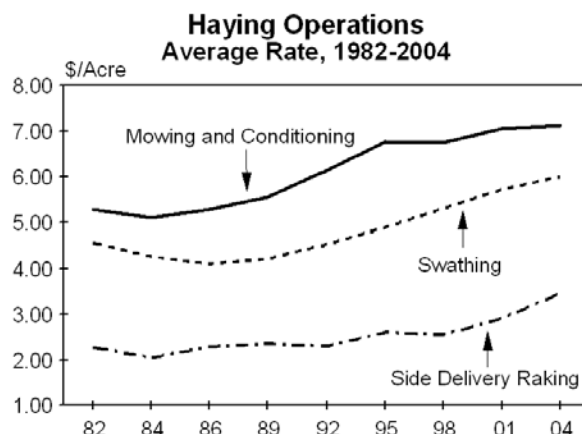
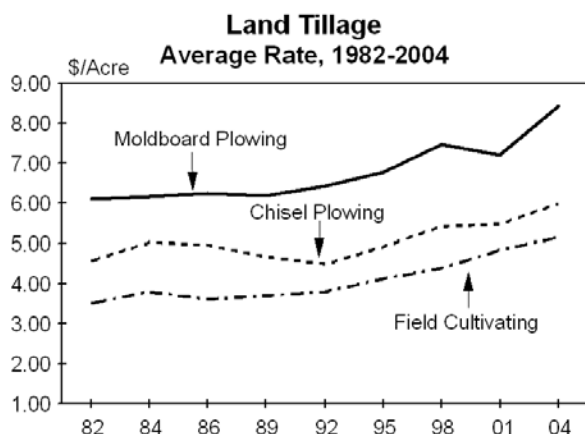
The custom rates information was selected from *Part I* of the *Custom Rates* release published in August 2004. A complete report may be obtained by contacting USDA's North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service at 1-800-626-3134 or on our website at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/nd/custom>. This report is the result of a survey conducted during July and August of aerial sprayers, farmers/ranchers, and other custom operators. The survey was designed to provide state and regional averages for custom work rates.

Appreciation is expressed to all survey participants who provided the data for this report. Funding was provided by

the North Dakota State University Experiment Station and Extension Service.

Listed are state level custom work rates for selected land tillage, planting, fertilizer and pesticide application, haying operations and other custom work. The rates reported are averages, not estimates. They include charges for equipment, power, fuel, and the operator. Exchange work is not considered custom work for this survey.

A late season custom rates survey (*Part II*) will be conducted in October. It will collect data on harvesting, grain drying, crop and hay hauling and other miscellaneous custom rates. This information will be released in November.



Custom Farm Work Rates, Statewide Averages, North Dakota, 1982 - 2004

Operation	1982	1984	1986	1989	1992	1995	1998	2001	2004
----- Dollars Per Acre -----									
Plowing (Moldboard)	6.11	6.18	6.25	6.19	6.43	6.78	7.48	7.22	8.44
Chisel Plowing	4.59	5.03	4.96	4.68	4.51	4.93	5.41	5.47	5.99
Field Cultivation	3.52	3.81	3.63	3.70	3.81	4.13	4.40	4.85	5.15
Small Grain Drilling									
Regular, With Fertilizer	4.68	4.54	4.78	4.76	5.28	6.00	6.48	7.30	7.95
Regular, Without Fertilizer	4.14	4.40	4.44	4.53	4.76	5.44	6.27	6.38	7.18
Air Seeding ^{1/}	4.80	4.82	5.46	5.27	6.29	7.36	7.92	8.50	9.49
No-Till Drilling ^{1/}	5.47	6.19	7.06	7.08	8.02	8.60	9.00	9.19	10.26
Fertilizer Application									
Dry Fertilizer (Broadcast)	2.58	2.44	2.29	2.42	2.66	2.95	3.27	3.64	3.87
Liquid Fertilizer	3.08	3.23	3.10	3.18	3.33	3.44	3.70	4.49	4.42
Anhydrous Ammonia									
With Knife Applicator	NA	4.20	4.35	4.14	4.16	4.66	5.11	5.33	6.12
While Chiseling	NA	4.95	4.90	4.92	5.09	5.38	5.79	6.32	6.61
Ground Application of:									
Liquid Herbicides (Broadcast)	2.08	2.19	2.02	2.21	2.48	2.85	3.32	3.89	4.07
Liquid Insecticides (Broadcast)	2.11	2.23	2.27	2.37	2.65	2.88	3.38	3.93	4.11
Haying									
Mowing and Conditioning	5.29	5.10	5.28	5.55	6.15	6.77	6.76	7.06	7.14
Swathing	4.57	4.26	4.11	4.21	4.53	4.89	5.31	5.72	6.01
Raking	2.28	2.04	2.28	2.36	2.29	2.60	2.54	2.90	3.47
Post Holes									
Digging	1.42	1.65	1.96	1.71	1.90	1.82	2.38	2.49	2.64

^{1/} Without Fertilizer NA = Not Available

EARLY SEASON CUSTOM RATES (Continued)

Other Custom Work, Statewide Averages, North Dakota, 2004							
Operation	2004				2001 Average Rate	2004 as Percent of 2001	
	Number of Reports	Range in Rates		Most Frequent Rate Reported			Average Rate
	- No. -	----- Dollars Per Head -----				- Pct. -	
Branding Calves	50	0.25-	6.00	1.00	1.71	1.58	108
Shearing Sheep	75	0.80-	4.00	2.00	2.33	2.15	108
Custom Feeding Livestock		----- Dollars Per Head Per Day -----					
Weaned Calves	97	0.20-	4.50	1.00	1.23	1.01	122
Yearlings and Cull Cows	94	0.25-	5.50	1.00	1.42	1.12	127
Wintering Pregnant Beef Cows	115	0.50-	6.50	1.00	1.48	1.22	121
Calving Out Cows	50	0.75-	10.00	1.50	2.17	1.93	112
On-Farm Feed Grinding & Mixing		----- Dollars Per Ton -----					
Mobile Truck	42	2.50-	50.00	10.00	16.07	14.83	108
PTO Unit	39	1.00-	40.00	20.00	12.13	10.26	118
Tub Grinding Hay		----- Dollars Per Hour -----					
Farmer Supplies Power	68	10.00-	150.00	50.00	63.93	44.00	145
Power Supplied	128	15.00-	180.00	100.00	89.76	79.62	113
Self Contained Unit	254	10.00-	180.00	100.00	95.74	85.01	113
Pneumatic Handling of Grain		----- Dollars -----					
Per Bushel	281	0.01-	0.50	0.05	0.08	0.08	100
Post Hole Digging		----- Dollars Per Hole -----					
Digging	103	0.02-	8.00	1.00	2.64	2.49	106
Building Multi-Strand Wire Fence (No Supplies Included)		----- Dollars -----					
Per Rod	54	0.70-	25.00	5.00	6.28	NA	
Per Hour	48	2.00-	60.00	10.00	15.51	NA	
Loader Work		----- Dollars Per Hour -----					
Skid-Steer Loader	319	6.00-	100.00	35.00	36.07	34.05	106
Tractor Loader	243	5.00-	100.00	40.00	38.22	35.18	109
Industrial Loader	312	20.00-	125.00	50.00	65.26	62.21	105

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